

V. REMARKS

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Kimber et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,068,614). Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Hirschman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,042,565). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 6, as amended, is directed to a plunger for a syringe used for supporting and moving a gasket inserted in a syringe barrel that includes a first screw portion, a pair of ring members, and a plurality of vane members. Claim 6 recites that the first screw portion has a first spiral groove formed at a tip thereof for mounting the gasket and the pair of ring members are arranged at an interval from each other at a rear of said first screw portion around a center axis of the plunger. Claim 6 further recites that the plurality of vane members are arranged radially from the center axis of the plunger between said ring members and outer diameters of said ring members and said vane members are equal to an inner diameter of the syringe barrel or slightly smaller than the inner diameter. Additionally, claim 6 recites that the pair of ring members is arranged in a region of the plunger, so that when the tip of the plunger is inserted from a rear end of a syringe barrel before the first screw portion is connectable to a second screw portion having a second spiral groove of the gasket and outer circumferential surfaces of the ring members and the vane members all abut on an inner surface of the syringe barrel to guide the plunger.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the features of claim 6 as amended. Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests that the pair of ring members is arranged in a region of the plunger, so that when the tip of the plunger is inserted from a rear end of a syringe barrel before the first screw portion is connectable to a second screw portion having a second spiral groove of the gasket and outer circumferential surfaces of the ring members and the vane members all abut on an inner surface of the syringe barrel to guide the plunger. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to modify the

features of the applied art because the applied art is devoid of such features. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 6 is allowable over the applied art.

Claims 7-10 depend from claim 6 and include all of the features of claim 6. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the dependent claims are allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Further, Applicants assert that there are also reasons other than those set forth above why the pending claims are patentable. Applicants hereby reserve the right to submit those other reasons and to argue for the patentability of claims not explicitly addressed herein in future papers.

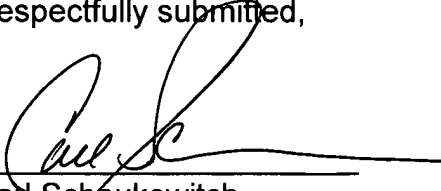
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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Enclosure(s): Request for Continued Examination
 Amendment Transmittal
 Petition for Extension of Time (one month)

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